

Finessa Slater 5558

Dear Chair Person and Members of the Public Health Committee,

My name is Finessa Slater, I live in East Haven, Connecticut at 226 Laurel Street and I am a Board Certified Behavior Analyst. I support HB 5558 because individuals with Autism require services at all ages, especially after 21 when they age out of the school system. Severe behaviors including but not limited to aggression, eloping, destruction, and Self-injurious Behavior such as head banging and hitting are characteristic of Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) has shown scientific evidence of repeated success with treating these behaviors. In addition ABA has shown to be effective in teaching appropriate replacement behaviors. Ultimately, ABA has increased the quality of lives for both those impacted by Autism, including their families, and communities.

It is pertinent that our state allocate the resources necessary to assist these individuals, their families and their communities and I strongly support HB 5558.

Thank you for your time,

Finessa Slater, M.A., BCBA (1-08-4057)

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